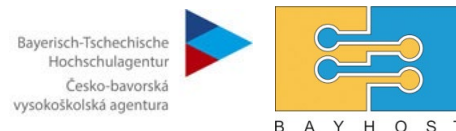


One-year scholarship program
sponsored by the Free State of Bavaria for graduates
of Central, Eastern and Southeastern European states



– guidelines for an expert opinion –

The Free State of Bavaria sponsors annual scholarships for graduates from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, and Ukraine. The scholarships are meant to finance postgraduate studies (i.e. master's programs), PhDs or one-year research sojourns at Bavarian higher education institutions. The one-year scholarship can be generally extended twice for up to 3 years. For the extension of the scholarship **expert opinions** of professors from the department of the PhD or the current master's program at the Bavarian HEI are required.

The expert opinion has particular significance for the selection of suitable candidates. Therefore, we would kindly ask you to apply strict benchmarks. Please name your full name, your institution (place and country), academic position as well as the name of the applicant that you are referring to in your statement. We further need you to sign your expert opinion (also stating the date).

The annual scholarship program of the Free State of Bavaria for students from Central, Eastern and South-eastern Europe is meant to support academic exchange and scientific cooperation. In order to decide on awarding a scholarship, it will be taken into consideration whether the scholarship is beneficial for the guest institution in Bavaria. Please refer in your expert opinion to this aspect and let us know if the scholarship is a desirable contribution to the research activities at your chair or if it supports the maintenance and development of a partnership with a higher education institution in Central, Eastern or Southeastern Europe.

Questions that you should (if possible) respond to in your expert opinion:

- How and since when do you know the applicant?
- What is your expert opinion based on (personal conversation with the applicant, project draft etc.)?
- Was an in-depth conversation with the applicant the basis of your expert opinion?
- How do you judge the applicant's academic ability or of writing a thesis?
- What distinguishes the applicant?
- Which pre-eminent qualities have you noticed with the applicant (i.e. creativity, independence, purposefulness, remarkable talent, socio-political commitment etc.)
- In respect to PhD dissertations: How do you rate the presented dissertation project, esp. regarding
 - its relevance to research
 - its theoretical or methodological approach
 - its degree of difficulty
 - the stage of prior work
 - Its work- and time schedule
- Do you esteem the applicant as well as the provided project overall for especially eligible, eligible, or not eligible?

Sending the signed letter directly to BAYHOST / BTHA as a scanned attachment by email is possible.

Contact for applicants

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